

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dunn, U.S. Patent 5,517,257 in view of Perlman, U.S. Patent 6,829,779 and Klopfenstein, U.S. Patent 6,985,190. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is noted, with appreciation, that the Examiner has indicated in paragraph 3 on page 3 of the Examiners Office Action letter that claims 2-19 although objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Although the Applicant does not agree with the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dunn in view of Perlman and Klopfenstein, in an effort to expedite the prosecution of the present application, the allowable subject matter of claim 2 has been incorporated into claim 1, and correspondingly claim 2 have been cancelled from the present application. Thus it is believed that all of the original claims which are either directly or independently dependent from allowable claim 1 are also allowable and thus it is believed that claims 1 and 3-19 are allowable over the prior art relied upon by the Examiner.

In addition, the Examiner will note that claims 20-37 have been added to the present application. Newly added claim 20 has been drafted to include the subject matter of amended claim 1, without the second element. Thus, since newly added claim 20 contains the allowable subject matter of original claim 2 it is believed that newly added claim 20 as well as all of the claims depended thereon, that is, claims 21-37 are also allowable.

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believe that claims 1 and 3-37 are allowable with a prior art and thus the present application is now in condition for allowance. Thus reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of all the claims in the present application are respectfully requested.

Application No. 10/020,162
Amendment dated **SEP 21 2006**
Reply to Office Action of June 14, 2006

Docket No.: 0465-0885P

CONCLUSION

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Joseph A. Kolasch Reg. No. 22,463 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: **SEP 21 2006**

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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